

## **IN THE CLAIMS**

Please cancel claims 1-39 without prejudice and add claims 40-85 as indicated.

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Cancelled)

24. (Cancelled)

25. (Cancelled)

26. (Cancelled)

27. (Cancelled)

28. (Cancelled)

29. (Cancelled)

30. (Cancelled)

31. (Cancelled)

32. (Cancelled)

33. (Cancelled)

34. (Cancelled)

35. (Cancelled)

36. (Cancelled)

37. (Cancelled)

38. (Cancelled)

39. (Cancelled)

40. (New) Sample depositing device, particularly for a cell sorter, with

- a sample supply for supplying samples to be deposited,
- a sample storage element for storing the samples, whereby the sample storage element has several sample containers for the separate storage of the samples,

wherein the sample storage element is arranged in a displaceable manner in order to select a sample container, whereas the sample supply is stationary.

41. (New) Sample depositing device according to claim 40, wherein the sample supply has a hose the mouth of which is fixed in a stationary manner over the sample storage element.
42. (New) Sample depositing device according to claim 41, wherein the hose is led through a guiding piece in order to direct the mouth of the hose to the sample storage element.
43. (New) Sample depositing device according to claim 42, wherein the guiding piece has a groove into which the hose can be inserted in order to define the course of the hose and to direct the mouth of the hose to the sample storage element.
44. (New) Sample depositing device according to claim 42, wherein the guiding piece consists of an autoclavable and sterilisable material.
45. (New) Sample depositing device according to claims 42, wherein the guiding piece is made of a material selected from a group consisting of PEEK, LEXAN and TEFLON.

46. (New) Sample depositing device according to claim 41, wherein the hose and the guiding piece are fixed in a detachable manner above the sample storage element.
47. (New) Sample depositing device according to claim 46, wherein the hose and the guiding piece are attached in a detachable manner above the sample storage element by way of a holding magnet.
48. (New) Sample depositing device according to claim 47, wherein the holding magnet is fixed in a stationary manner to the sample depositing device, whereas a magnetizable holding element is attached to the guiding piece.
49. (New) Sample depositing device according to claim 48, wherein the magnetizable holding element is cast into the guiding piece.
50. (New) Sample depositing device according to claim 48, wherein the guiding piece is injection molded around the magnetizable holding element.

51. (New) Sample depositing device according to claim 40, wherein to position the sample storage element relative to the sample supply an actuator is provided.
52. (New) Sample depositing device according to claim 40, wherein the sample storage element can be positioned laterally and in the direction of the sample supply.
53. (New) Sample depositing device according to claim 52, wherein the sample storage element can be positioned so far in the direction of the sample supply that the sample supply is immersed in one of the sample containers of the sample storage element.
54. (New) Sample depositing device according to claim 52, wherein the sample to be deposited is fluid and has a material-dependent droplet detachment size, whereby the sample storage element can be moved so far upwards in the direction of the sample supply that the distance between the sample supply and the sample storage element is smaller than the droplet detachment size.

55. (New) Sample depositing device according to claim 40, wherein the sample storage element is arranged in an incubator.
56. (New) Sample depositing device according to claim 55, wherein the incubator has an inspection window in order to allow visual monitoring.
57. (New) Sample depositing device according to claim 55, wherein the incubator has a camera in order to allow visual monitoring.
58. (New) Sample depositing device according to claim 55, wherein the incubator has an additional lighting in order to allow visual monitoring.
59. (New) Sample depositing device according to claim 56, wherein the incubator has climate control equipment which sets a value selected from a group consisting of the temperature, the humidity and the carbon dioxide content in the incubator.
60. (New) Sample depositing device according to claim 40, wherein the sample storage element is a microtiter plate.

61. (New) Sample depositing device according to claim 40, wherein the sample storage element has test strips for taking up PCR samples.
62. (New) Sample depositing device according to claim 40, wherein the sample storage element is arranged in a detachable manner in the sample depositing device.
63. (New) Sample depositing device according to claim 62, wherein the sample storage element can be inserted and removed manually.
64. (New) Sample depositing device according to claim 62, wherein the sample storage element can be inserted and removed with a robot.
65. (New) Sample depositing device according to claim 40, wherein to guide the sample storage element laterally arranged metal balls are provided.



66. (New) Sample depositing device according to claim 40, wherein to guide the sample storage element laterally arranged sprung spherical pressure elements are provided.
67. (New) Sample depositing device according to claim 40, wherein the sample storage element has a cover which can be opened for storing the samples and can be closed for removal and transportation of the sample storage element.
68. (New) Sample depositing device according to claim 40, wherein the hose is connected to the guiding piece in a detachable manner.
69. (New) Sample depositing device according to claim 40, wherein the hose is permanently attached to the guiding piece.
70. (New) Sample depositing device according to claim 40, wherein the sample supply is arranged above the sample storage element, whereby the distance between the sample supply and the sample storage element is smaller than a material-dependent droplet detachment size in order to prevent droplet detachment during the storing of the samples.

71. (New) Sample depositing device according to claim 40, wherein to store samples which are not of interest a collection container is provided.
72. (New) Sample depositing device according to claim 71, wherein the collection container has a cover which can be opened.
73. (New) Sample depositing device according to claim 71, wherein the collection container is removable.
74. (New) Sample depositing device according to claim 71, wherein the collection container is made of an autoclavable material.
75. (New) Sample depositing device according to claim 71, wherein the collection container has on its upper side at least one trough-shaped recess for dabbing off a sample.
76. (New) Sample depositing device according to claim 41, wherein the hose has an oblique tip.

77. (New) Sample depositing device according to claim 41, wherein the hose is at least in the area of its mouth made of a hydrophilic material in order to prevent droplet detachment.
78. (New) Sample depositing device according to claim 41, wherein the hose is at least coated with a hydrophilic material in the area of its mouth in order to prevent droplet detachment.
79. (New) Sample depositing device according to claim 40, wherein the sample storage element is covered with a film which can be penetrated by the sample supply.
80. (New) Cell sorter with a sample depositing device in accordance with claim 40.
81. (New) Particle manipulator with a sample depositing device according to claim 40, in particular manipulator for the fusion and poration of biological objects.

82. (New) Fluidic system with sample depositing device according to claim 40, in particular system for mixing fluids.
83. (New) Sample depositing process, particularly for depositing samples in a cell sorter, with the following stages:
- Positioning of a sample supply relative to a sample storage element,
  - Release of the sample to be deposited from the sample supply in the sample storage element,
- wherein the sample supply is stationary whereas the sample storage element is moved.
84. (New) Sample depositing process according to claim 83, wherein the sample is fluid and has a material-dependent droplet detachment size, whereby for depositing the sample the sample storage element is moved so far in the direction of the sample supply that the distance between the sample supply and the sample storage element is smaller than the droplet detachment size.

85. (New) Sample depositing process according to claim 84, wherein when releasing the sample a distance remains between the sample supply and the sample storage element.